

# The YAC

*A Newsletter for Iowa Library Staff Who Work with Youth and Children  
Brought to You by Iowa Library Services*



## March 2014

### Upcoming Events:

March 7 through 28 -- "Developing Literacy Abilities of 3-5 Year Olds" - in-person workshops at 6 locations (check the CE Catalog for the nearest location)\*

March 9-15 - Teen Tech Week

March 16 - Freedom of Information Day

April 2 - "Many Children, Many Cultures: Incorporating Día into Your Library's Programming" - a webinar from Iowa Library Services\*

April 5-12 - Money Smart Week (<http://www.ala.org/offices/money-smart-week>)

April 12 - D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything and Read) Day  
(<http://www.dropeverythingandread.com/NationalDEARday.html>)

April 13-19 - National Library Week

April 30 - El día de los niños/día de los libros (Children's Day/Book Day)  
(<http://www.patmora.com/whats-dia/>)

May 12-18 - Children's Book Week (<http://www.bookweekonline.com/> -- Voting for Children's Choice Book Awards begins March 25<sup>th</sup>)

October 12-18 - Teen Read Week

([http://teenreadweek.ning.com/?xg\\_source=msg\\_mes\\_network](http://teenreadweek.ning.com/?xg_source=msg_mes_network))

\*See the Continuing Education Catalog at <http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/cgi-bin/cecat/> for registration information.

### Occasions for Special Displays/Program Themes to Plan for in May:

- May 1 - The first post cards were issued in 1873. (Invite a collector to display some items from their collection.)
- May 6 - Birthday of Leo Lionni
- May 12-18 - Children's Book Week
- May 16 - America's first 5¢ piece was approved in 1866. (What can you get for a nickel? Hold a nickel-drive instead of a penny-drive.)
- May 23 - Birthday of Margaret Wise Brown
- May 24 - Birthday of Mo Willems
- May 27 - Birthday of Amelia Bloomer

### Celebrate Earth Day - April 22<sup>nd</sup>

Crafts using recycled materials are great for Earth Day programs. Here are a few suggestions:

- 🌍 Weeded Books: Turn weeded books into secret journals or mini-scrapbooks: Write diary entries between the lines or circle meaningful words in the text. Add photos and decorative materials. Fill with ticket stubs, news clippings, etc.
- 🌍 Coffee Filter Earth: For the younger set, try this craft that has become a classic for Earth Day <http://www.dltk-kids.com/crafts/earth/mcoffeefilter.htm>
- 🌍 Plantable Paper Earth: Want to get a little messy? Try this fun idea -- <http://www.modernparentsmessykids.com/2013/04/make-it-plant-able-paper-earth.html>
- 🌍 Envelope Houses: Do you save used envelopes or ones from junk-mail? Use them as the basis for house pictures for the younger set. Provide some other scrap materials for windows, doors, bushes, etc. Show the children how to experiment with torn paper -- creating pleasing shapes to add to their artwork. (Shapes shown are the scraps from die cut letters!)
- 🌍 Sheet Music Art: Look at some examples of what can be done with discarded sheet music at <http://shewalkssoftly.com/2012/05/02/people-too-sheet-music-art/>. Simple black silhouette shapes over sheet music are cool, too!



- 🌐 Make beads from plastic straws: <http://www.craftideas.us/cute-jewelry-with-plastic-straws.html>
- 🌐 Water Bottle Art: There are lots of ideas online for re-using water bottles and plastic lids to create art. Preschoolers can dip the flower-shaped bottoms in paint to make prints. Teens might string shapes together to create a chandelier or hanging art piece. Take a look at the following sites for inspiration:
  - <http://www.i-do-it-yourself.com/2009/04/eco-friendly-blossoms-by-michelle-brand/>
  - <http://www.inspirationgreen.com/index.php?q=plastic-bottle-christmas-tree.html>
  - <http://www.designrulz.com/product-design/2012/11/45-ideas-of-how-to-recycle-plastic-bottles/>
  - <http://www.hegeinfrance.com/search?updated-max=2012-07-06T07:37:00%2B02:00&max-results=7&start=14&by-date=false>
  - <http://spoonful.com/crafts/bottle-beings>
- 🌐 Collect an assortment of cardboard boxes (from cereal, etc.) and have children build a wall with these instead of blocks. (Hopefully, participants will discover things like: "cereal boxes are less likely to tip over if you place them largest-side-down" and "it works best to start with the large boxes on the bottom of the stack.")

*Planning an Earth Day event at your library? Please share (either before or after the event)! Just e-mail [sue.gruber@lib.state.ia.us](mailto:sue.gruber@lib.state.ia.us).*

## Re-Energize for the Summer Library Program

It's that time again! Time to get out those manuals that you put aside and really get down to planning the details of your Summer Library Program.

Our SLP presenters Anna Hartmann and Sarah Day have created a great website where they share tons of additional ideas for programs, crafts and decorating:

<http://fizzboomread.weebly.com/>

Plus they have a Pinterest page: [http://www.pinterest.com/small\\_fox/srp-2014-fizz-boom-read/](http://www.pinterest.com/small_fox/srp-2014-fizz-boom-read/)

Photos of the crafts from the fall workshop are posted at:

<http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/t-z/youthservices/slp/2014-summer-library-program>

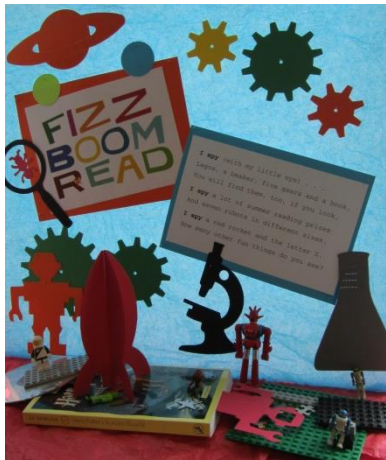
Bulletin Boards:

In addition to the great decorating ideas on the website above, the District Offices are again offering a bulletin board set made with our die cut shapes:



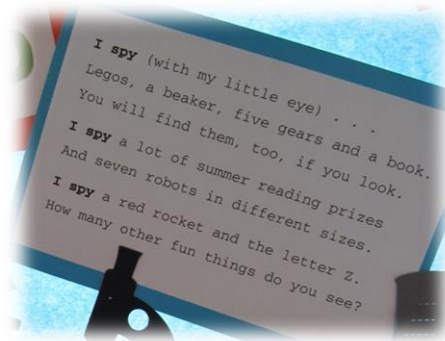
Details are posted on the Iowa Library Services web page at:

<http://www.statelibraryofiowa.org/ld/c-d/diecuts/slp2014>



I Spy Display for Prizes:

Incorporate your summer reading prizes into a display with an "I Spy" rhyme something like the one shown here. Just gather an assortment of items related to this year's theme. Include some of the die cut shapes from Iowa Library Services (contact your District Office). To fill a larger area you might include examples of crafts, flyers about events, and so on.



## Better Storytimes

Last month we introduced the idea of interactive books for storytime. This month, we would like to mention two more types of books to include in your programs.

First, **concept** books are those that teach about a concrete idea such as counting, opposites, or seasons. A few examples are: *1-2-3 Peas* by Keith Baker, *Augie to Zebra* by Kate Endle, and *Green* by Laura Vaccaro Seeger.



Second, **mood picture books** convey strong feelings such as happiness, sadness, fear or empathy. A few examples are *Just a Dream* by Chris Van Allsburg, *The Storm Book* by

Charlotte Zolotow, *Owl Moon* by Jane Yolen, *Farmer Duck* by Helen Oxenbury and *Pumpkin Soup* by Helen Cooper.

Notice elements like color and setting that create the mood and incorporate that into the rest of your program. For example, drawing with dark colors only could express a sad or fearful mood. Identifying the moods and feelings will help children express their own feelings and thereby enhance their narrative skills.

## Simple S.T.E.M.:

Incorporating Science, Technology, Engineering and Math into your library programs isn't difficult. This year's Summer Library Program theme provides lots of ideas and inspiration that you can continue to use for months to come.

For your younger patrons, focus on counting, sorting, shapes, and senses. Include nonfiction books about nature, animals, and weather, as well as concept books (shapes, numbers, etc.) in your storytimes. For example, here are some great shape books to consider: *Round is a Mooncake* by Roseanne Thong, *Perfect Square* by Michael Hall, *When a Line Bends - A Shape Begins* by Rhonda Gowler Greene, *Circle Dogs* by Kevin Henkes, and *Mouse Shapes* by Ellen Stoll Walsh.



Below are a few examples of simple, non-messy activities that you can use in your library every day:

- All you need is a few dominoes and a sheet of "parking spaces" to make counting practice more interesting. If you would like a template of the "parking lot" shown here, just e-mail [sue.gruber@lib.state.ia.us](mailto:sue.gruber@lib.state.ia.us) - I will send it to you as an attachment.

- For elementary-age children, try paper helicopters (see <http://starfisheducation.blogspot.com/2013/04/TheBro>

[wnBagSTEMChallengePaperHelicopters.html](http://starfisheducation.blogspot.com/2013/04/TheBro)). Use various kinds of scrap paper from weeded books, magazines, etc. to see what works best.

- Challenge children to build structures using marshmallows and dry spaghetti. See <http://www.heidisongs.com/blog/2012/04/stem-projects-in-kindergarten-are-so.html> for examples.

S.T. E. M. Resources:

The Simply S.T.E.M. wiki -- <http://simplystem.wikispaces.com/>

Library: Science Programs on Pinterest -- [http://www.pinterest.com/linda\\_smik/library-science-programs/](http://www.pinterest.com/linda_smik/library-science-programs/)

YALSA's STEM Resources -- [http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/STEM\\_Resources](http://wikis.ala.org/yalsa/index.php/STEM_Resources)

## Odds & Ends/Un Poco de Todo

◦ **Money Smart Week** @ your library is scheduled for April 5-12.

It's not too late to promote two contests for students sponsored by Iowa's Money Smart Week team:

- The Money Smart Week Iowa Poster Contest is for students in grades 2-6. Additional information, including a flyer you can post at your library, can be found at <http://www.cbionline.org/2403/mirror/networking-banker-involvement.htm>. The deadline is April 17<sup>th</sup>.
- The Money Smart Week Essay Contest is for students in grades 7-11. Additional information, including a flyer you can post at your library, can be found at <http://iowajumpstart.org/whatwedo/msw-iowa/>. The deadline is March 14<sup>th</sup>.

◦ "The Best **Multicultural Books** of 2013" from the Center for the Study of Multicultural Children's Literature can be found at: <http://www.patmora.com/images/blog-best-multi-2013.pdf>

◦ YALSA members are eligible to apply for \$1000 Teen Read Week Activity Grants. Deadline is June 1<sup>st</sup>. See [http://teenreadweek.ning.com/page/trw-activity-grant?xq\\_source=msg\\_mes\\_network](http://teenreadweek.ning.com/page/trw-activity-grant?xq_source=msg_mes_network) for more information.

◦ Voting for the Bridge to Reading Picture Book Award continues through April 30<sup>th</sup>. Ballots are available at many childcare sites, schools, and public libraries or online at [www.bridgetoreading.com](http://www.bridgetoreading.com). The Bridge to Reading website offers printable bookmarks, activity sheets, book plates, and spine labels.

The 2013-2014 top ten nominees are:

- Bear and Bee by Sergio Ruzzier
- Baby Bear Sees Blue by Ashley Wolff
- Tap the Magic Tree by Christie Matheson
- Find a Cow Now by Janet Stevens
- It's a Tiger by David LaRochelle
- Count the Monkeys by Mac Barnett and Kevin Cornell



- Let's Sing a Lullaby with the Brave Cowboy by Jan Thomas
- Duckling Gets a Cookie by Mo Willems
- Ribbit by Rodrigo Folgueira
- One Special Day by Lola Schaefer

For more information, contact Danielle Day, Youth Services Manager, Carnegie-Stout Public Library Chairperson of Bridge to Reading Picture Book Award, (563) 589-4138, [dday@dubuque.lib.ia.us](mailto:dday@dubuque.lib.ia.us).

◦ Voting ends March 30<sup>th</sup> for the Iowa Association of School Librarians' Children's Choice Awards. There are four awards according to grade level. Read more at: <https://sites.google.com/site/iowabookawards/iasl-awards>

## MARCH WEBINARS:

• **Teen Tech Week: Measuring Program Outcomes and Impact** (Presented by the Young Adult Library Services Association)  
March 11 (1-2 pm)

Join YALSA for information on Maker Activities for Teen Tech Week. Teen Tech Week is when libraries make the time to showcase all of the great nonprint resources and services that are available to teens and their families. This year celebrate with the "DIY @ your library" theme during YALSA's Teen Tech Week March 9-15, 2014.

For more information and to register for this program, visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KK5BD7Z>

• **Geek is the New Chic: Engaging Teens in Libraries with Technology** (Presented by Colorado State Library)  
March 17 (1:30-2:30 pm)

Are you looking for ways to engage teens in your library using technology? Is your staff intimidated by both teens and technology?

As a follow-up to Teen Tech Week, join this interactive CSL In Session to discuss your successes and failures, hear about initiatives from other libraries, talk about ways to extend lessons learned during Teen Tech Week into Summer Reading and beyond, and learn how to get creative with securing funding for these initiatives.

For more information and to register for this program, visit: <http://cslinsession.cvlites.org/>

• **From Superheroes to Vampires: The Hottest Graphic Novels of 2014** (Presented by *Library Journal*)  
March 19 (1-2 pm)

Join us for an exclusive sneak peek at some of the great graphic novels hitting the shelves over the next few months, plus hear tips on how to share the exciting world of graphic novels with your patrons. Get the insider's view from DC Comics, Dark Horse Comics, Del Rey, Archie Comics, Kodansha and more. There's something for everyone; find out more about a certain superhero's 75th birthday party and just what the heck is happening in Riverdale. Are vampires really killing off our favorite teens?

For more information and to register for this program, visit:

<http://lj.libraryjournal.com/category/webcasts/>

**•Power Up Story Time by TALKING: Reading with Toddlers and Preschoolers in Small Groups**

(Presented by Early Childhood Investigations)

March 19 (1-2 pm)

In this webinar, given jointly by a developmental psychologist and a children's librarian, we will explore: What children at different ages (from 6 months to 3 or 4 years) do with books, What books children like at different ages and why, How to generate interest and engagement with different kinds of books, Using books as conversation starters and conversation extenders, Sharing books in multi-aged groups, Supporting teachers to create and make the most of book-sharing opportunities, at circle time and beyond, and Engaging families to build their children's love of books and a shared "culture of reading."

For more information and to register for this program, visit:

<http://www.earlychildhoodwebinars.com/presentations/>



Address questions or comments about this newsletter to [sue.gruber@lib.state.ia.us](mailto:sue.gruber@lib.state.ia.us).

Contributions are welcomed, too!